

More fake perfins are showing up; fake overprints are an added problem

As was reported in the February *Bulletin*, fake perfins have become something of a plague on the market—especially in Europe, where most of them seem to originate.

Now comes information that more fakes are showing up on the perfins of China and Manchukuo. Fake Russian post office obliteration punches are also being reported on the market in Europe.

To further complicate matters, creative crooks are taking legitimate perfins and faking overprints on them to increase their market value.

Eugene Alpern (#2049), an attorney in Los Angeles, says a recent list of perfins from a dealer in China featured several previously unknown perfins. Alpern made inquiries about the dealer and learned that he had been suspected of handling questionable merchandise. Alpern's request for

photocopies of some of the perfins was not honored.

Magnus Werner (#1308) reported the Russian fakes and says he has been unable to trace their origin further than to a presumably innocent dealer in

Poland.

The good thing (if there is a good thing) is that the Russian fakes are not well done.



One of the fake Russian perfins reported by Magnus Werner. The poor quality helps give them away.

To further complicate the problem of fakes, Werner says additional German stamps of the 1906 to 1920

period are showing up with legitimate perfins but fake Danzig overprints. Werner warned of

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More fake perfins and overprints....

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the Danzig fakes in 1993 (*The Perfins Bulletin*, September 1993, page 171) and Bob Schwerdt notes the existence of the fakes in the European Section of the *World Perfins Catalog*. Fake overprints have also been showing up on legitimate perfins from Austria, Egypt, and China.

The foreign catalog chairman continues to gather as much information as possible on the fake perfins (and overprints) and will continue to keep members informed.